

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS21959

This legislation codifies the Legislature's approach to budgeting for public school pupil transportation costs and discretionary funds, which has been in place for FY11, FY12 and FY13. Under this approach, intent language was included in the appropriation bill which set aside the provisions of Section 33-1006, Idaho Code, reduced pupil transportation reimbursements by \$7.5 million, and transferred the savings to state discretionary funds for public schools. This legislation eliminates the need to continue setting aside Idaho Code through intent language by moving that language into Idaho Code.

FISCAL NOTE

If this legislation is not passed, it will either cost the state General Fund an additional \$7.5 million in ongoing funding, beginning in FY14, to increase distributions for pupil transportation reimbursements, or will require a \$7.5 million reduction in state discretionary funds distributed to public schools. If this legislation is passed, there is no additional cost to the state General Fund or reduction required in state discretionary funds for public schools, since this legislation codifies the Legislature's existing approach to budgeting for public schools, as expressed historically through budgetary intent language.

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